

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15

NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-12 /088 W

-----054091 161821Z /50

O 161705Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1751

USUN NEWYORK IMMEDIATE NIACT 2827

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAA

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 PRETORIA 4015

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG SF WA

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: SAG PRESS ACCOUNTS

REF: STATE 179607

FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF AN ARTICLE BY FLEUR DE VILLIERS

IN THE SUNDAY TIMES JULY 16: QUOTE:

THE SECURITY COUNCIL IS EXPECTED TO MEET ON JULY 25 TO CONSIDER THW  
WESTERN SETTLEMENT PLAN FOR SOUTH WEST AFRICA. BUT YESTERDAY THERE WERE

STRONG DOUBTS ABOUT SOUTH AFRICA'S POSITION AS THE FIVE WESTERN  
AMBASSADORS MET THE FOREIGN MINISTER, MR PIK BOTHA, FOR TWO HOURS OF  
TALKS. THE ATMOSPHERE AT THE TALKS WAS SAID TO BE NEGATIVE AS THE  
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AMBASSADORS EXPLAINED THE WESTERN POSITION. MR BOTHA LATER LEFT THE  
MEETING FOR URGENT CONSULTATIONS WITH THE PRIME MINISTER, MR.  
VORSTER.

THE DOUBTS CONCERNED THE MANNER IN WHICH THE WEST AND THE FRONT-LINE  
STATES HAD FINALLY MANAGED TO OBTAIN SWAPO'S ACCEPTANCE OF THE PLAN AND

OVERCOME ITS OBJECTIONS ON WALVIS BAY. PRESIDENT KAUNDA OF

ZAMBIA SAID IN AN INTERVIEW IN LUSAKA AFTER THE LUANDA CONFERENCE THAT IT WAS EXPECTED THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL WOULD ENDORSE SWAPO'S POSITION THAT WALVIS BAY WAS AN INTEGRAL PART OF SOUTH WEST AFRICA. WALVIS BAY? HOWEVER, WAS TO BE KEPT OUT OF THE WESTERN SETTLEMENT PLAN AND ITS FUTURE WOULD BE NEGOTIATED BETWEEN SOUTH AFRICA AND AN INDEPENDENT NAMIBIA. SOUTH AFRICA SOURCES SAID YESTERDAY THAT A WESTERN-BACKED SECURITY COUNCIL DECLARATION ON WALVIS BAY WOULD BE "UNACCEPTABLE". SUCH A DECLARATION WOULD BE BINDING ON THE MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND ALL THOSE WHO AGREED TO IT. SOUTH AFRICA HAD MADE ITS STAND ON WALVIS BAY CLEAR A YEAR AGO AND THE WEST ACCEPTED THE POSITION. SOUTH AFRICA HAS NO OBLIGATION TO NEGOTIATE ON WALVIS BAY. IT ACCEPTED THE WESTERN PROPOSALS AS THEY STOOD AND THEY COULD NOT BE CHANGED. ITS FINAL RESPONSE WOULD, HOWEVER, DEPEND ON THE WORDING OF THE DECLARATION. WESTERN SOURCES SAID THEY HAD SUCCEEDED AT THE LUANDA MEETING IN KEEPING THE WALVIS BAY ISSUE OUT OF THE PROPOSALS. SOUTH AFRICA HAD BEEN TOLD THAT IT MIGHT COME UP IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL, BUT THAT IT WOULD NOT BE LINKED TO THE SETTLEMENT PLAN, WHICH SWAPO AND SOUTH AFRICA HAVE NOW ACCEPTED. THE DECLARATION IS OBVIOUSLY VIEWED BY THE WEST AS A HARMLESS SOP TO SWAPO. NEVERTHELESS, SOURCES MADE IT CLEAR THAT NO WESTERN COUNTRY WOULD INTRODUCE THE RESOLUTION, AND THEIR DECISION TO BACK IT OR NOT WOULD DEPEND ON THE WORDING.

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
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NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-12 /088 W  
-----054079 161821Z /50

O 161705Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1752

USUN NEWYORK IMMEDIATE NIACT 2828

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS FINAL SECTION 2 OF 2 PRETORIA 4015

LEGALITY:

THE FIVE-NATION WESTERN CONTACT GROUP ACCEPTED THE LEGALITY OF SOUTH AFRICA'S POSITION ON WALVIS BAY AND BELIEVED THE ISSUE SHOULD BE NEGOTIATED BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS AFTER INDEPENDENCE. IT WAS ALSO CONFIRMED THAT IN AN EFFORT NOT TO HAVE WALVIS BAY LINKED TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL'S ENDORSEMENT OF THE WEST'S PLAN, THE TWO ISSUES WILL COME UP AT SEPARATE SECURITY COUNCIL MEETINGS. THE PLAN WILL PROBABLY BE DISCUSSED ON JULY 25 AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE PRESENT OAU MEETING IN KHARTOUM. UN ENDORSEMENT OF THE PLAN WILL THEREFORE NOT

BE DEPENDENT ON THE WALVIS BAY ISSUE. OBSERVERS BELIEVE THAT THIS SCENARIO COULD PUT SOUTH AFRICA IN A DIFFICULT POSITION. HAVING ALREADY ACCEPTED THE PLAN, SOUTH AFRICA CANNOT NOW BACK OFF IN ANTICIPATION OF A WALVIS BAY RULING WHICH WILL BE TABLED  
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ONLY LATER.

PRESSURED:

MEANWHILE, INFORMED SOURCES IN LUSAKA THIS WEEK MADE NO SECRET OF THE FACT THAT SWAPO HAD BEEN STRONGLY PRESSURED BY THE FRONTLINE STATES TO AGREE TO THE WEST'S PLAN.

THEFRONT-LINE STATES HAD DISMISSED SWAPO'S OBJECTIONS TO THE POSITIONING OF SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS WITH THE QUESTION IF IT WAS PREPARED TO GO TO WAR ON SO MINOR AND IRRELEVANT AN ISSUE. AT ONE POINT PRESIDENT NYERERE OF TANZANIA HAD ASKED SWAPO LEADER SAM NUJOMA BLUNTLY WHETHER THE WANTED TO NEGOTIATE..

LINK:

"IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO GO BACK TO RULE NAMIBIA", HE IS REPORTED AS SAYING, " YOU SHOULD GET OUT OF THE WAY AND MAKE ROOM FOR PEOPLE WHO DO."

SWAPO HAS ACCEPTED THAT SOUTH AFRICA PUBLIC SERVANTS WOULD BE IN THE TERRITORY FOR SOME TIME TO COME. THE PRESENCE OF THE PUBLIC SERVANTS COULD FORM A USEFUL LINK BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. SOUTH AFRICA HAD " TALKING POINTS" WITH MOZAMBIQUE, ANGOLA AND ZAMBIA

.  
THE SAME RELATIONS COULD BE ESTABLISHED WITH A SWAPO-RULED NAMIBIA, FRONT-LINE SOURCES SAID.

THEY WARNED, HOWEVER, THAT THE WHOLE SITUATION WAS STILL EXTREMELY FRAGILE AND COULD BE SHATTERED BY " ANOTHER CASSINGA- POLITICAL OR MILITARY. UNQUOTE.

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## Message Attributes

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